CLAIMS

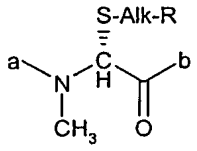
1. Use of a non-immunosuppresive, cyclophilin-binding cyclosporin in the manufacture of a medicament for treating or preventing ischemic brain damage , traumatic brain or spinal cord injury or stroke.

2. A method for the treatment or the prevention of ischemic brain damage or traumatic brain or spinal cord injury in a patient suffering from or at risk of suffering from such a disease or condition, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a non-immunosuppresive, cyclophilin-binding cyclosporin.

3. A use according to Claim 1 or a method according to Claim 2, in which the non-immunosuppresive, cyclophilin-binding cyclosporin is a compound of formula (A):

-MeBmt-αAbu-B-C-Val-MeLeu-Ala-(*D*)Ala-MeLeu-MeLeu-MeVal-
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 **(A)**

wherein B is an amino acid residue of formula (B):



(B)

wherein

a denotes the bond to the αAbu residue in position 2;

b denotes the bond to the residue C in the 4 position;

Alk represents straight- or branched-chain alkylene containing from 2-6 carbon atoms or cycloalkylene containing from 3-6 carbon atoms; and

R represents

a carboxy or alkyloxycarbonyl radical;

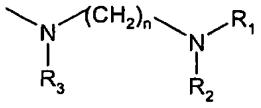
a radical $-NR_1R_2$,

in which

R_1 and R_2 are the same or different and represent hydrogen, alkyl, C_{2-4}alkenyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, phenyl (optionally substituted by halogen, alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyl, amino, alkylamino or dialkylamino) or a benzyl or saturated or unsaturated heterocyclyl radical containing 5- or 6-ring atoms and 1-3 heteroatoms, or

R_1 and R_2 form, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, a saturated or unsaturated heterocycle containing 4-6 ring atoms and optionally containing a further heteroatom selected from nitrogen, oxygen or sulphur and optionally substituted by alkyl, phenyl or benzyl;

a radical of formula:



wherein

R_1 and R_2 are as defined above;

R_3 represents hydrogen or an alkyl radical; and

n is a whole number from 2-4; and

alkyl denotes straight- or branched-chain alkyl containing from 1-4 carbon atoms;

C is MeLeu or 4-hydroxy-MeLeu;

and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

4. A use according to Claim 1 or a method according to Claim 2, in which the non-immunosuppresive, cyclophilin-binding cyclosporin is a compound of formula (I):

- W - X - R - Y - Z - Q - Ala - (*D*)Ala - MeLeu - MeLeu - MeVal -
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 **(I)**

in which

W is MeBmt, dihydro-MeBmt or 8'-hydroxy-MeBmt;

X is αAbu, Val, Thr, Nva or *O*-methyl threonine (MeOThr);

R is Sar or (*D*)-MeAla;

Y is MeLeu, γ-hydroxy-MeLeu, MeIle, MeVal, MeThr, MeAla, Me Tyr, MeTyr(O-PO(OH)$_2$), MeaIle or MeaThr or Pro;

Z is Val, Leu, *N*-Alk-Val or *N*-Alk-Leu, wherein Alk represents Me or Me substituted by vinyl optionally substituted by phenyl, or an N, S or O heteroaryl containing 6 ring members, or phenyl optionally substituted by halogen; and

Q is MeLeu, γ-hydroxy-MeLeu or MeAla.

5. A use according to Claim 1 or a method according to Claim 2, in which the non-immunosuppresive, cyclophilin-binding cyclosporin is a compound selected from the group comprising:

a) [dihydro-MeBmt]^1-[γ-hydroxy-MeLeu]^4-Ciclosporin;

b) [MeVal]^4-Ciclosporin;

c) [MeIle]^4-Ciclosporin;

d) [MeThr]^4-Ciclosporin;

e) [γ-hydroxy-MeLeu]^4-Ciclosporin;

f) [Nva]^2-[γ-hydroxy-MeLeu]^4-Ciclosporin;

g) [γ-hydroxy-MeLeu]^4-[γ-hydroxy-MeLeu]^6-Ciclosporin;

h) [MeVal]^5-Ciclosporin;

i) [MeOThr]^2-[(*D*)MeAla]^3-[MeVal]^5-Ciclosporin;

j) [8'-hydroxy-MeBmt]^1-Ciclosporin;

k) [MeAla]^6-Ciclosporin;

l) [DMeAla]^3-[MeTyr(OPO(OH)$_2$)]^4-Ciclosporin;

m) [*N*-Benzyl-Val]^5-Ciclosporin;

n) [*N*-5-Fluoro-Benzyl-Val]^5-Ciclosporin;

o) [*N*-Allyl-Val]^5-Ciclosporin;

p) [*N*-3-Phenyl-Allyl-Val]^5-Ciclosporin;

q) [Pro]^4-Ciclosporin or

r) [γ-hydroxy-MeLeu]^9-Ciclosporin.

6. A use according to Claim 1 or a method according to Claim 2, in which the non-immunosuppresive, cyclophilin-binding cyclosporin is [MeIle]^4-Ciclosporin or [γ-hydroxy-MeLeu]^4-Ciclosporin.